

Unit 2

Classical Civilizations

500 BCE – 500 CE

Empires

- Common empire-building tools
 - Large, professional armies
 - Centralized, bureaucratic government
 - Infrastructure/public works development
 - Cities



Visual Source 4.2 The Terra-Cotta Army of Shi Huangdi
Dennis Cox/China Stock
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Geography of Greece

- Part of the Balkan peninsula
- Developed separate city-states
-geographically separated
- Location by water = great for expanding empire
- City-states frequently fought each other
- **RIVAL PERSIAN EMPIRE** was across the Aegean Sea



Greek Alphabet

- - Greeks expanded Phoenician alphabet
- - Greek alphabet is the foundation of all western alphabets

A Alpha (ai-fah)	B Beta (bay-tah)	Γ Gamma (gam-ah)	Δ Delta (dei-ta)	E Epsilon (ep-si-lon)	Z Zeta (zay-tah)
H Eta (ay-tah)	Θ Theta (thay-tah)	I Iota (eye-o-tah)	K Kappa (cap-pah)	Λ Lambda (lamb-dah)	M Mu (mew)
N Nu (new)	Ξ Xi (zie)	Ο Omicron (om-e-cron)	Π Pi (pie)	Ρ Rho (roe)	Σ Sigma (sig-mah)
Τ Tau (taw)	Υ Upsilon (up-si-lon)	Φ Phi (fie)	Χ Chi (kie)	Ψ Psi (sigh)	Ω Omega (oh-may-gah)

EARLY PEOPLE OF THE AEGEAN SEA



Aegean Sea

Island of Crete

Minoan Civilization (1750-1500 B.C.E.)

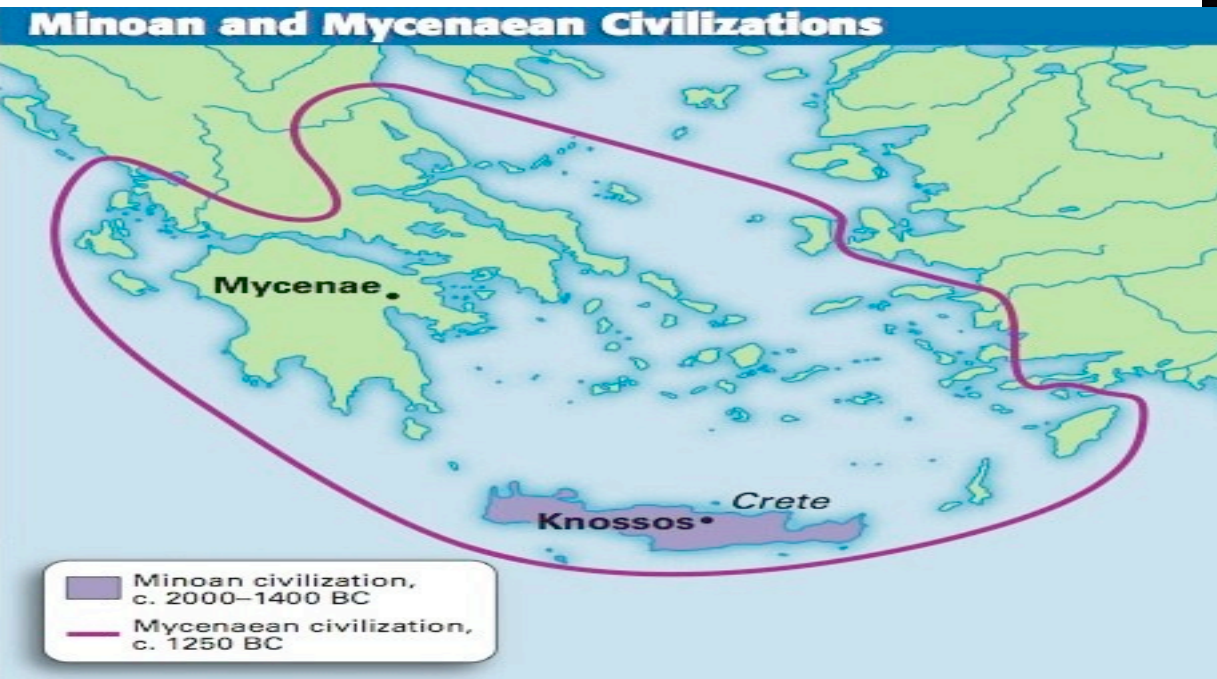
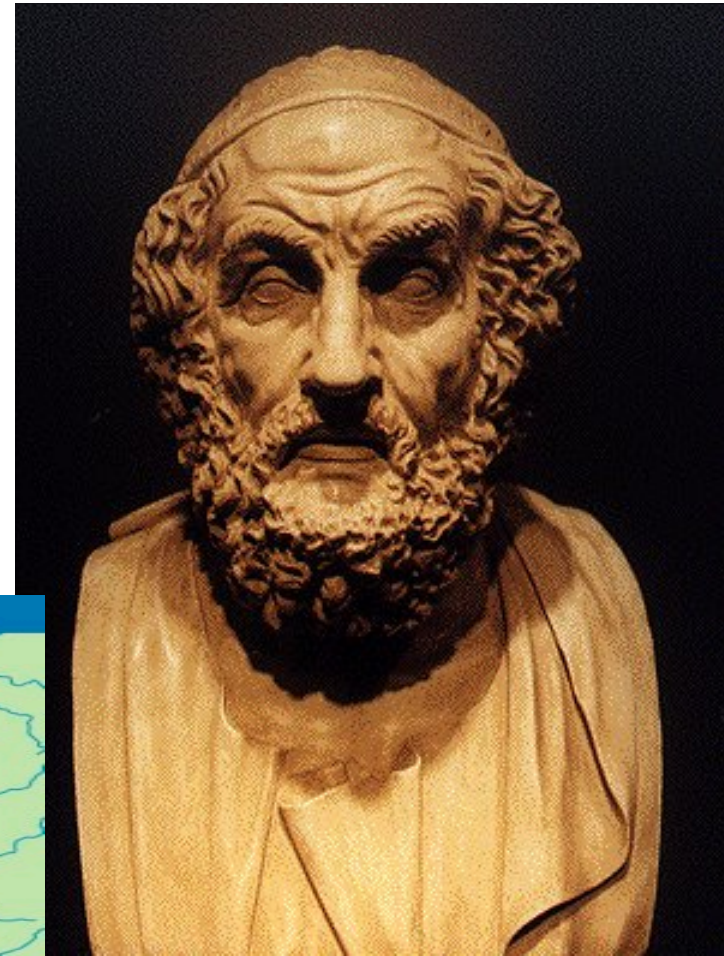


- Lived on island of Crete
- Built on trade instead of conquest
- Women = more rights than other civilizations
- 1400 B.C.E., civilization disappeared
- - Most likely tsunami
- Fresco Paintings



Mycenae (1400-1200 B.C.E.)

- Successful sea traders
- - Lived in city-states ruled by warrior/kings
- - Ruled surrounding villages.
- Best remembered for their part in The Trojan War
 - Homer: The *Iliad* and the *Odyssey*



Homer

- Blind poet who travels from villages with his tales.
- - passed on orally before they are written down.
- *Iliad*
- - story of the Trojan War
- - Achilles, the mighty Greek warrior and his role in the war.
- *The Odyssey*
- - the tale of Odysseus and his journey home to his wife Penelope after the Trojan Wars.

Rise of City-States

- Built cities on hilltops
 - Acropolis for Gods/Goddesses
- Polis- first governed by a king
 - Then moved to Oligarchy
- Athens moves to a democracy (limited at first)
- Pericles (Greek ruler from 460-429 BC)
 - Golden age, direct democracy



More on City-States and Early Political Greece

- Disconnected terrain (land) prevented Greeks from uniting under one government
- Polis – independent local city-states
 - ATHENS AND SPARTA – two of the most powerful

Social and Political Systems of the Polis

Citizenship was limited to males (helloooooo patriarchy) - Only ones who were not slaves

Each polis could have its own type of government
(Monarchy, Aristocracy, Oligarchy, Democracy...etc)



- Powerful City-State Sparta = Oligarchy and monarchy
 - 2 kings share power
 - Helllllloooooooooo Leonidas ☺
 - The “State” was MOST IMPORTANT thing in Spartan society
 - More on that later

Powerful City-States ATHENS

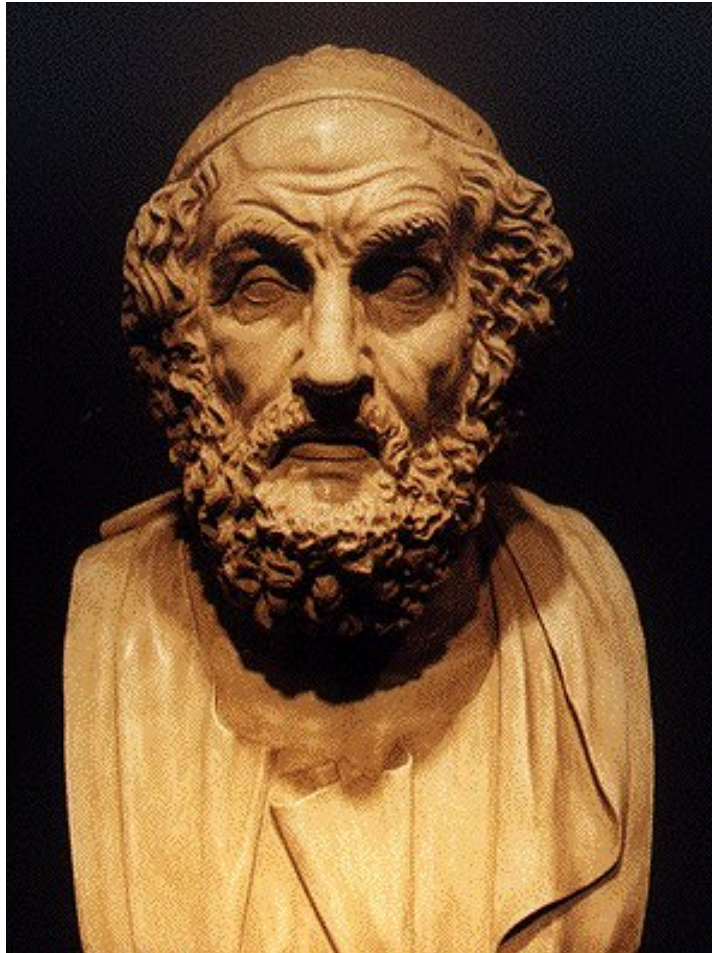
- Tyrants – leaders who seized power
 - Overthrown aristocrats in most city-states by 650 BCE
 - Overtime – began to abuse power
- Direct **Democracy**
 - 500 BCE, began overthrowing tyrants
- Pericles (Greek ruler from 461 BCE-429 BCE)
 - Golden age
 - Reforms to government (Council of the 500, People's Courts)



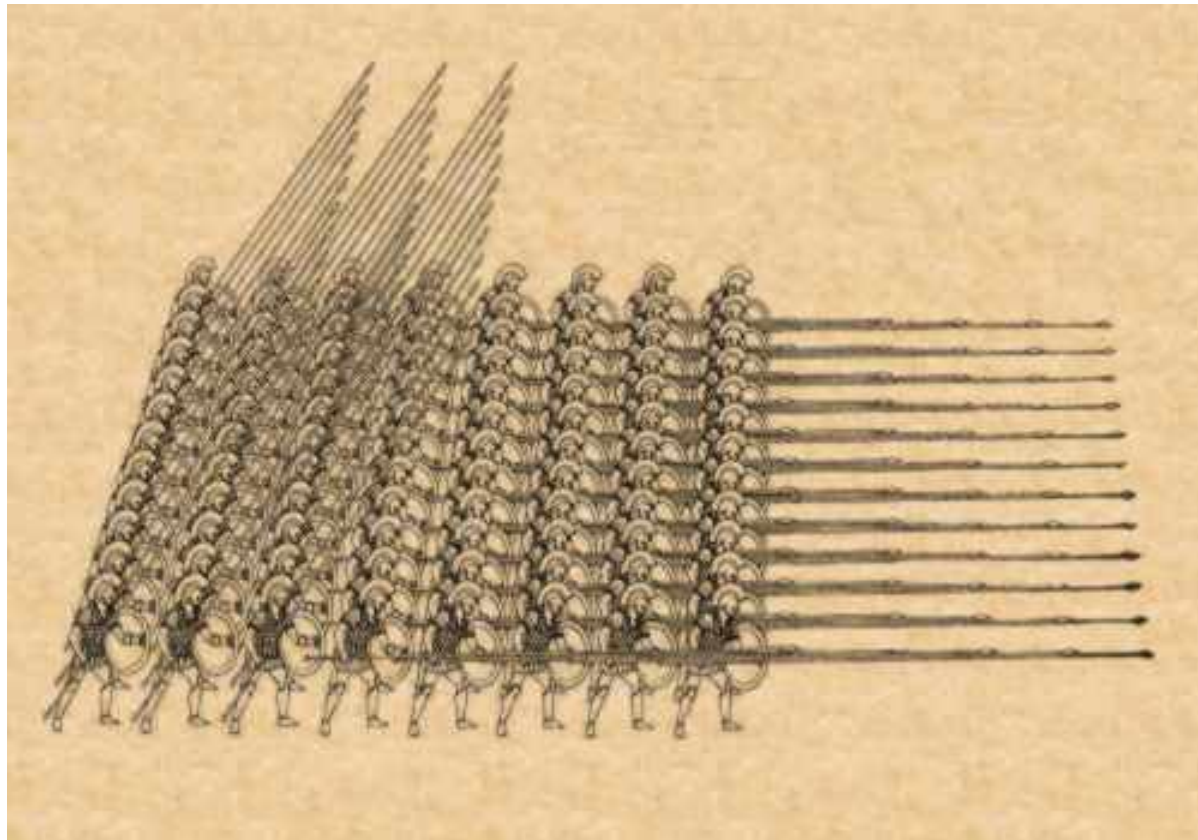
Parthenon and Acropolis



Homer & Achilles



The Phalanx



Meet the Spartans (Sparta)

- From the southern part of Greece
- Military state where training began at a young age
- Produced excellent soldiers
 - “The 300” Battle of Thermopylae
- Women gained more responsibility than men



Greek Culture

- Despite many differences that led to conflict, Greeks shared a common language, gods, and heroes.
- Olympic Games
- Gods: Polytheistic
 - - Lived on Mt. Olympus
 - - Zeus was most powerful
- Greeks felt superior to those they encountered.
 - - Called them Barbaroi – people who did not speak Greek. (Barbarians)
 - - Included Egyptians, Phoenicians and Persians

The Greek Pantheon of Gods

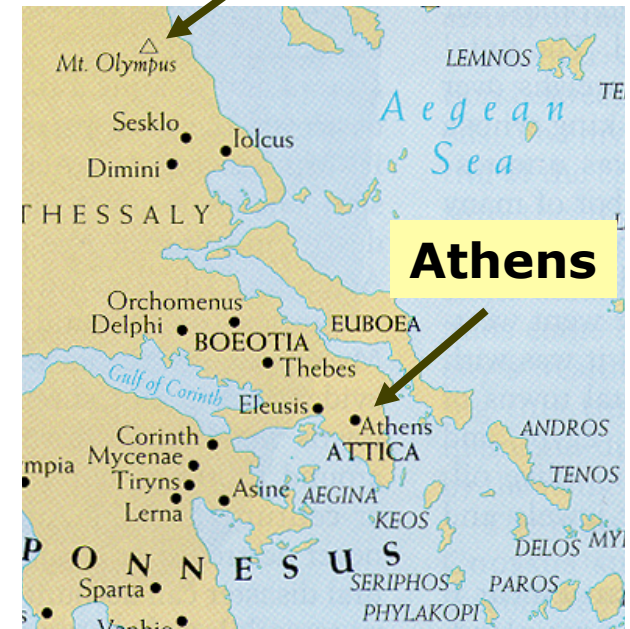


Summit of Mt Olympus



The Olympian Gods

Mount Olympus



There are many gods in Greek mythology. The Greeks believed that the gods lived on Mount Olympus.

The Greek Gods of Olympus



Zeus: king of the gods, god of sky and thunder.

Hera: wife and sister of Zeus and goddess of marriage.

Poseidon: god of the sea.

Ares: god of war.

Hermes, the messenger of the gods, was also the god of orators, literature and poets.

Hephaestus: god of blacksmiths, craftsmen and artisans.

Aphrodite: goddess of love.

Athena: goddess of wisdom, strategy, and war.

Apollo: god of the sun.

Artemis: goddess of the moon and hunting.

Hestia: goddess of the hearth and the family.

Demeter: goddess of agriculture.

Dionysus: god of wine, civilization and peace.

Hades: god of the underworld.

Persephone: goddess of the underworld.

Persian Wars

- Series of wars in which Persians tried to invade Greece
 - Greeks had to unify to defeat the Persians
 - Included many famous battles
 - Inspired the movie “300”

In 490 B.C. Darius sent 600 ships and thousands of soldiers to invade Greece. He wanted to punish the Athenians for helping the rebels.

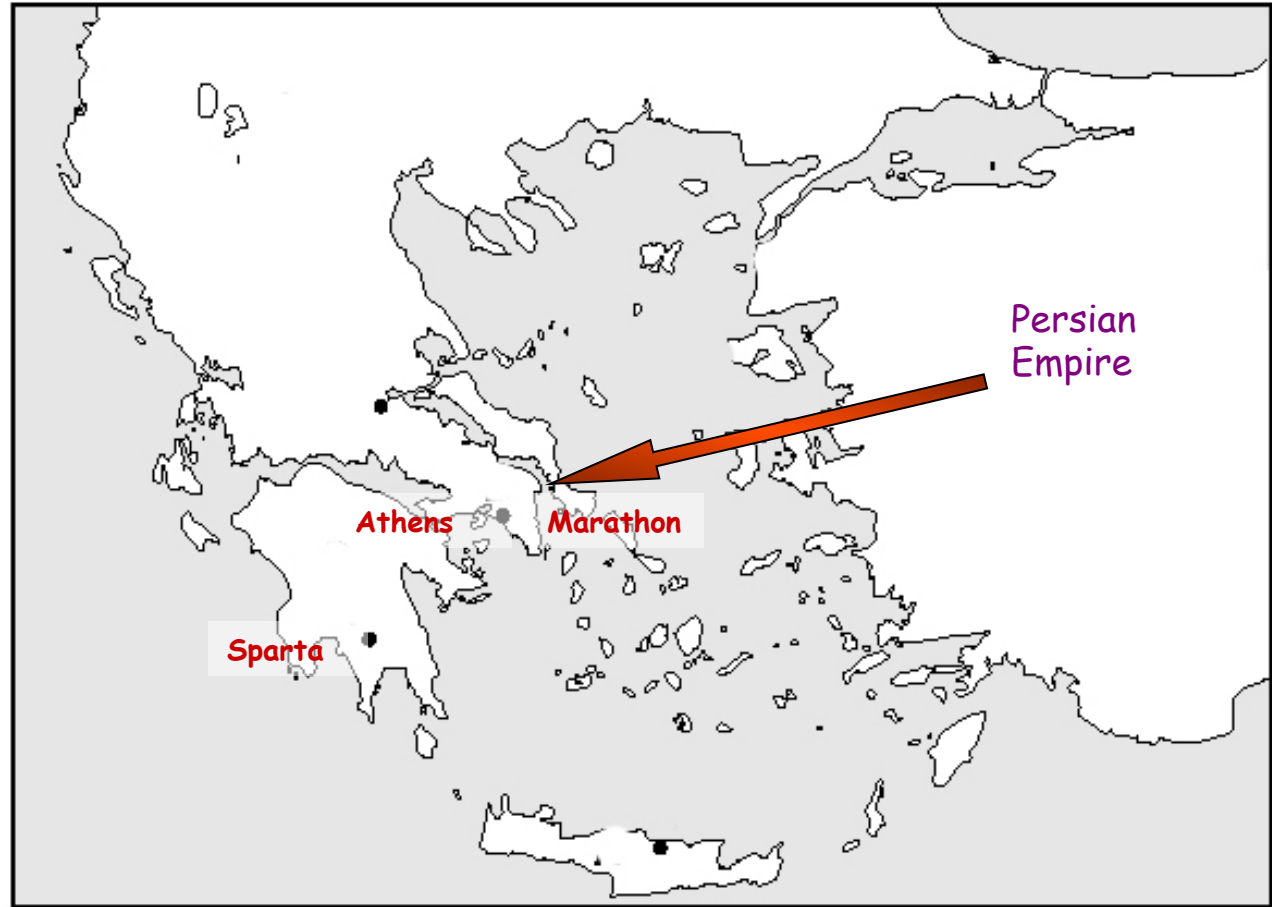
- Persian army landed at Marathon, in 490 B.C.
- The Persians greatly outnumbered the Greeks.

-Greek army stood strong and were trained in land combat.

- Persians trained in Sea Combat.

-Greek soldiers charged.

-Persians retreated



Persians decide to attack by sea



Marathon



- Greeks defeat the Persians
- Sent home their fastest runner to deliver the news
- He sprinted 26.2 miles from the battle site to the city-state of Athens!
- - He arrived and said, “Rejoice, we conquer,” and died from exhaustion
- The Marathon race is named after this event.

What Happened at Thermopylae?

- In 480 B.C.E. Darius' son Xerxes sent a larger force to conquer Greece.
- Athens convinced Sparta to join them in battle.
- Xerxes and his Persian army marched down the eastern coast of Greece.
- Then they came to a narrow mountain pass called Thermopylae
- 7000 Greek soldiers , including 300 Spartans waited for the Persians.



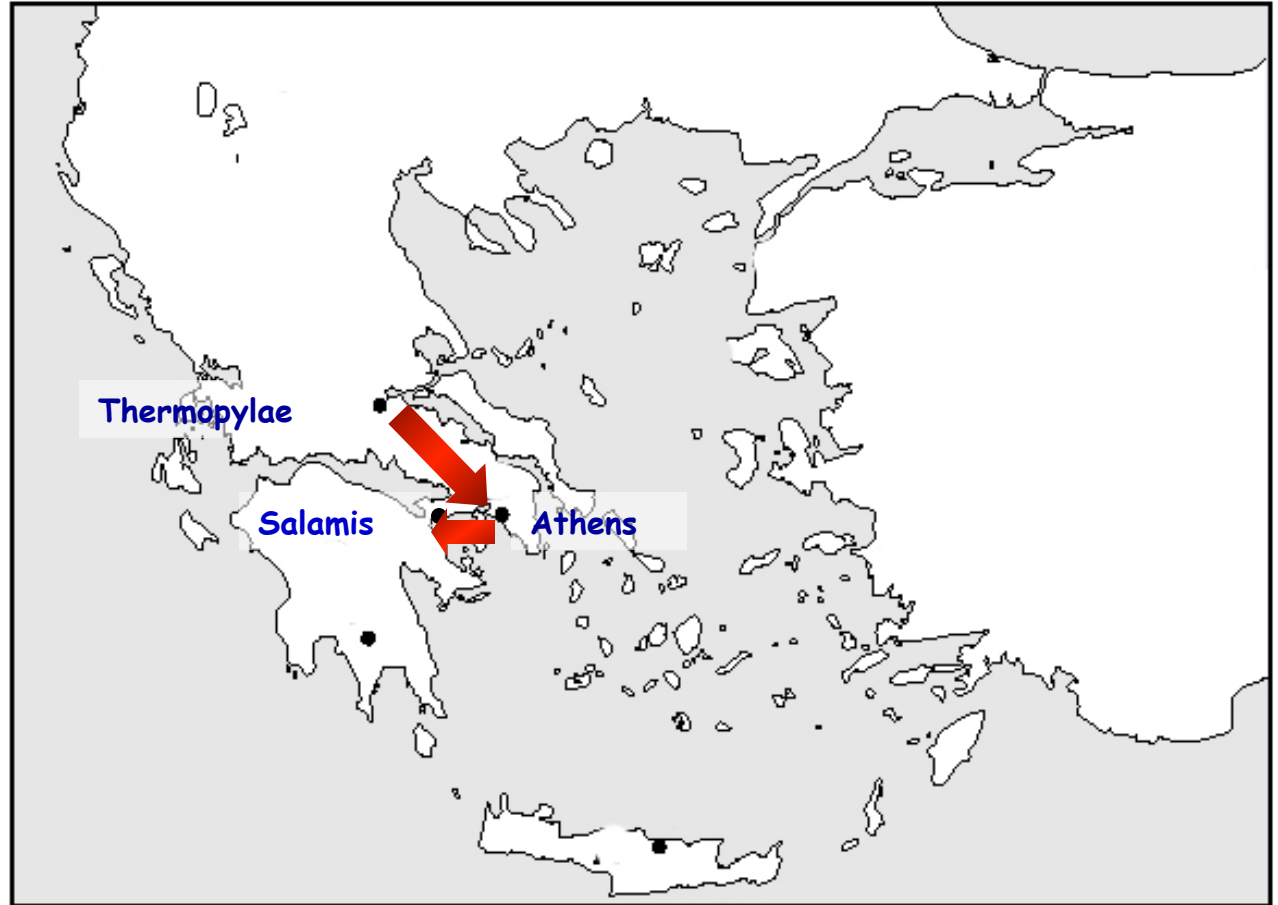
Thermopylae: The Last Stand

- A Greek betrayed them
- On day 3, a small Spartan force of about 300 men commanded by King Leonidas
- They were defeated, but won valuable time for the rest of the Greeks.



Meanwhile, what's going on in Athens?

- The Persians marched south after their victory at Thermopylae and burned the city of Athens.
- Athenians had already moved to Salamis, a nearby island.
- More than 800 Persian ships attacked the Athenian navy near the island.



More than 1/3 of the Persian fleet sank due to punctures to the hull and Greeks fighting back

**The large Persian ships could not maneuver in the water.
The smaller Greek ships destroyed them.**



Results of the Persian Wars



- Greeks won by the way 😊
- Athens emerged as the most powerful city-state in Greece.
- Athens organized the Delian League, an alliance with other Greek city-states.
- Athens used the league to assert power and build an Athenian Empire with more than 200 city-states
- Will set Athens and the Greeks into a brief Golden Age
- Then send them into the 30 year Peloponnesian Wars

Democracy and Greece's Golden Age

- 460 to 429 B.C often called “Age of Pericles”
- Pericles believed that all male citizens, regardless of wealth or social class, should take part in government..
 - He paid salaries to men who held public office.
 - This enabled the poor to serve in the government.
- Direct democracy, a large number of citizens took part in the day to day affairs of the government.
- Strengthened navy - because of access to waterways and defending the city of Athens
- Pericles rebuilt the Acropolis and turned Athens into the cultural center of Greece.





Peloponnesian War



- **Sparta and Athens still don't like each other**
 - Sparta has strategic advantage in that it cannot be attacked from the sea.
 - Sparta even sided with the Persians to try to conquer the Athenians
- Sparta marches and finally they take Athens (with the help of the Persians.)
- Pericles allows people to move into walls of the city. **Overcrowding** caused major problems and disease kills 1/3 of the population inside the walls - including Pericles.
- **Internal struggles undermined the Democratic government of Athens.**
- **Finally, in 404 B.C., with the help of the Persian navy, the Spartans captured Athens and stripped it of its fleet and empire.**
- Spartans spare Athenians despite calls for their destruction.
- With all of the warring amongst the Greeks, Macedonia from the north becomes poised to conquer the unsettled Greek city-states.

Greek Philosophers

- Philosopher – lover of wisdom
- Much of modern science has its roots in Greece
- Socrates
 - - Socratic Method – poses questions to challenge students
 - - Condemned to death for his beliefs
 - “Corrupting the Youth of Athens”
- Plato
 - - Established the Academy
 - - *The Republic* – vision of an ideal state.
- Aristotle
 - - “The golden mean” – moderation not extremes
 - - Established the Lyceum



Herodotus – father of history

Alexander the Great



Alexander the Great

- Phillip II of Macedonia 359 B.C.
- - Hires Aristotle to tutor his son Alexander
- - He is assassinated and Alexander takes the Throne
- Alexander
- - By age 20 he is poised to rule an empire
- - Takes control of the Persian empire.
 - Marries Persian woman
- - Pushed into India – first time Alexander loses in battle
- - Died suddenly from a fever
 - Does not name a ruler

Alexander's Empire

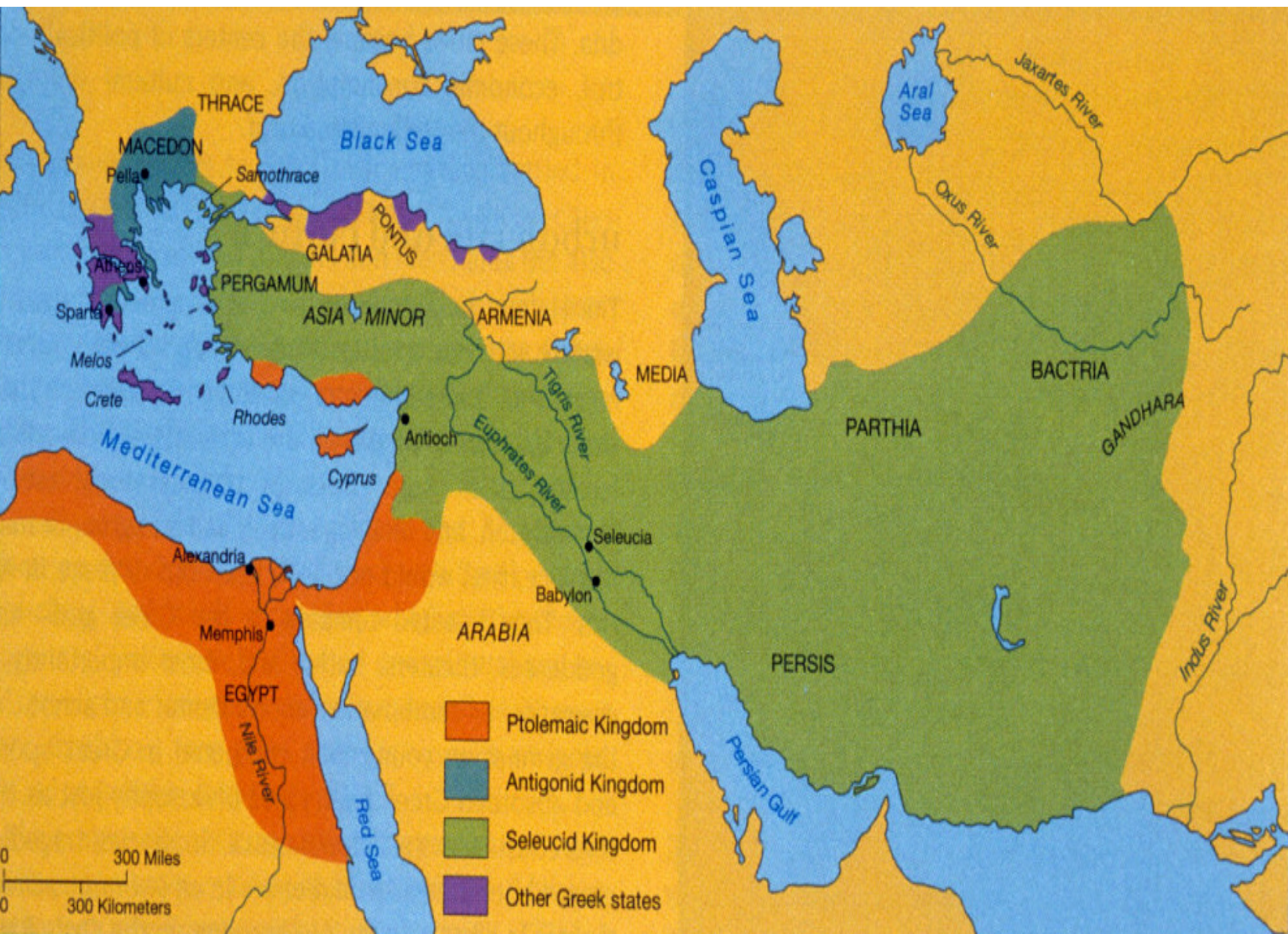


Alexander' s Legacy

- The spread of Greek culture
- Assimilation occurs across his conquered lands
- - These blended people were called “Hellenistic”
- - Alexander married a Persian woman
- - The city of Alexandria in Egypt.
- - Women gain rights
- - Cleopatra comes to power as a result of the new freedoms of women.
- - Great library is built that later burns.
- - Stressed the importance of knowledge

Hellenistic Culture

- After Alexander's death: trade and common language linked cities
- Greek (Hellenic) culture blended with Egyptian, Persian and Indian
 - Hellenistic
- Alexandria – City in Egypt
 - Became center of commerce due to location and port

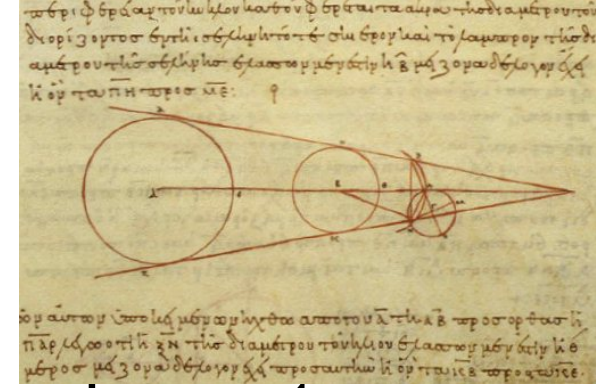


Alexandria

- Avenues lined with statues of Greek gods
- Royal palaces
- Pharos – lighthouse at Alexandria
- Museums, Libraries dedicated to arts and sciences
 - Library contained half a million papyrus scrolls of ancient literature

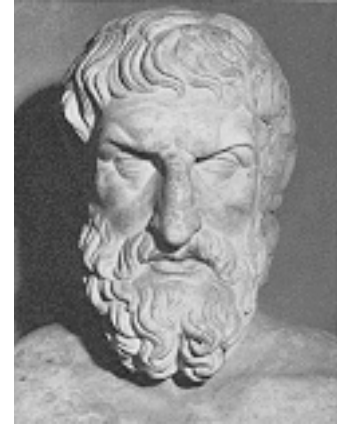


Science and Technology



- Museum in Alexandria contained an observatory
 - **Aristarchus:**
 - estimated the sun was 300 times larger than earth (underestimated), but disproved theory that Sun was smaller than Greece!
 - Believed Earth and other planets revolved around the sun
 - Heliocentric theory
 - **Ptolemy:** believed Earth was center of solar system
 - **Eratosthenes:** Calculated Earth's circumference between 28,000 and 29000 miles
 - **Actual: 24,860!**

Philosophy and Art



- Epicurus founded Epicureanism
 - Gods who had no interest in humans ruled the universe
 - Only real objects were what the five senses perceived
 - Greatest good and highest pleasure came from the absence of pain

Realism

- Hellenistic age: move away from classical art and into realism
- Largest sculpture in era – Colossus of Rhodes
 - On Isle of Rhodes
 - One of the 7 wonders of the Ancient World
- Nike (sculpture) – also found on Rhodes
- Hellenistic was more natural works of art
 - Carved ordinary people as old and wrinkled
- By 150 B.C.E. Hellenistic world was in decline and Rome was growing in strength

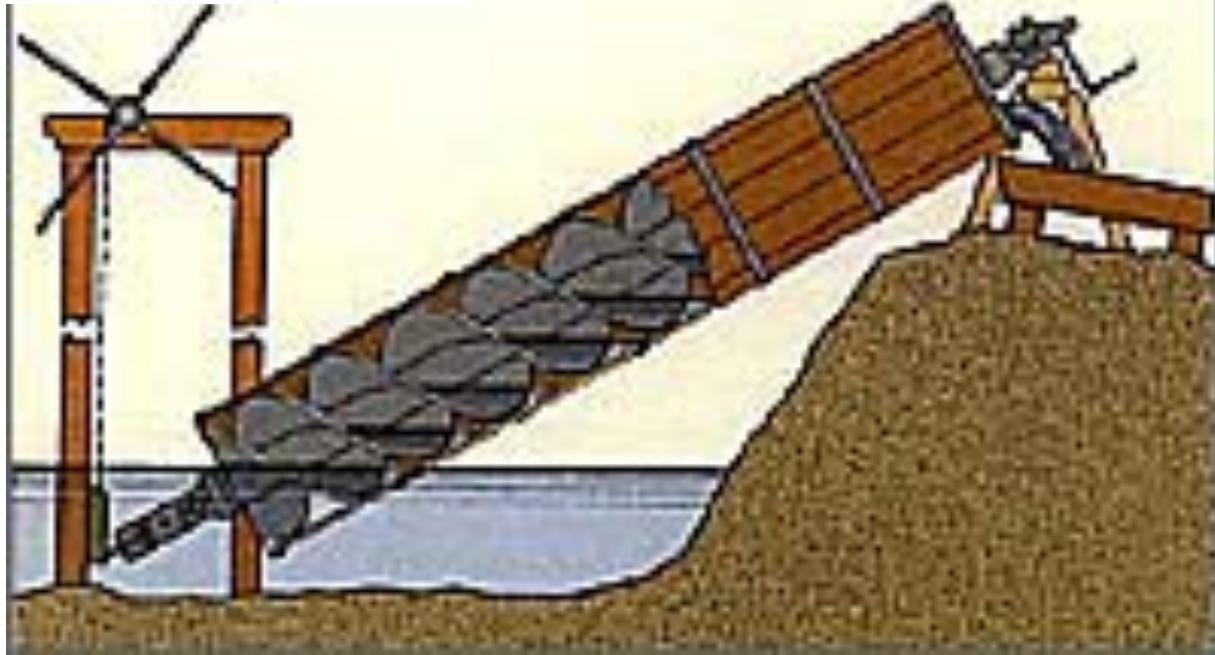


The Greeks are credited for:

- Democracy – Athens had this form of government.
- Trial by Jury – people would vote guilty/innocent via vases and stones.
- Civic Duty- citizens need to serve.
- Mathematics – Euclid created the basics for geometry.
- Came up with pi
- Astronomy & Astrology
- Philosophy
- Art & Architecture
- Olympics
- Emphasis on Education



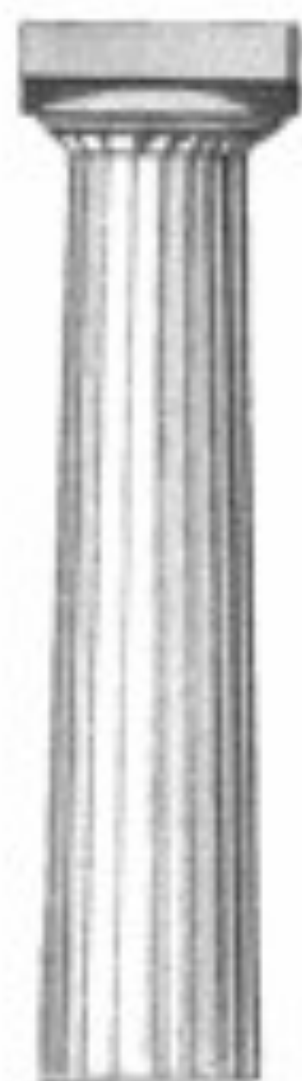
Archimedes
Screw- still used
today to move
water from hard
to reach areas.





Athens





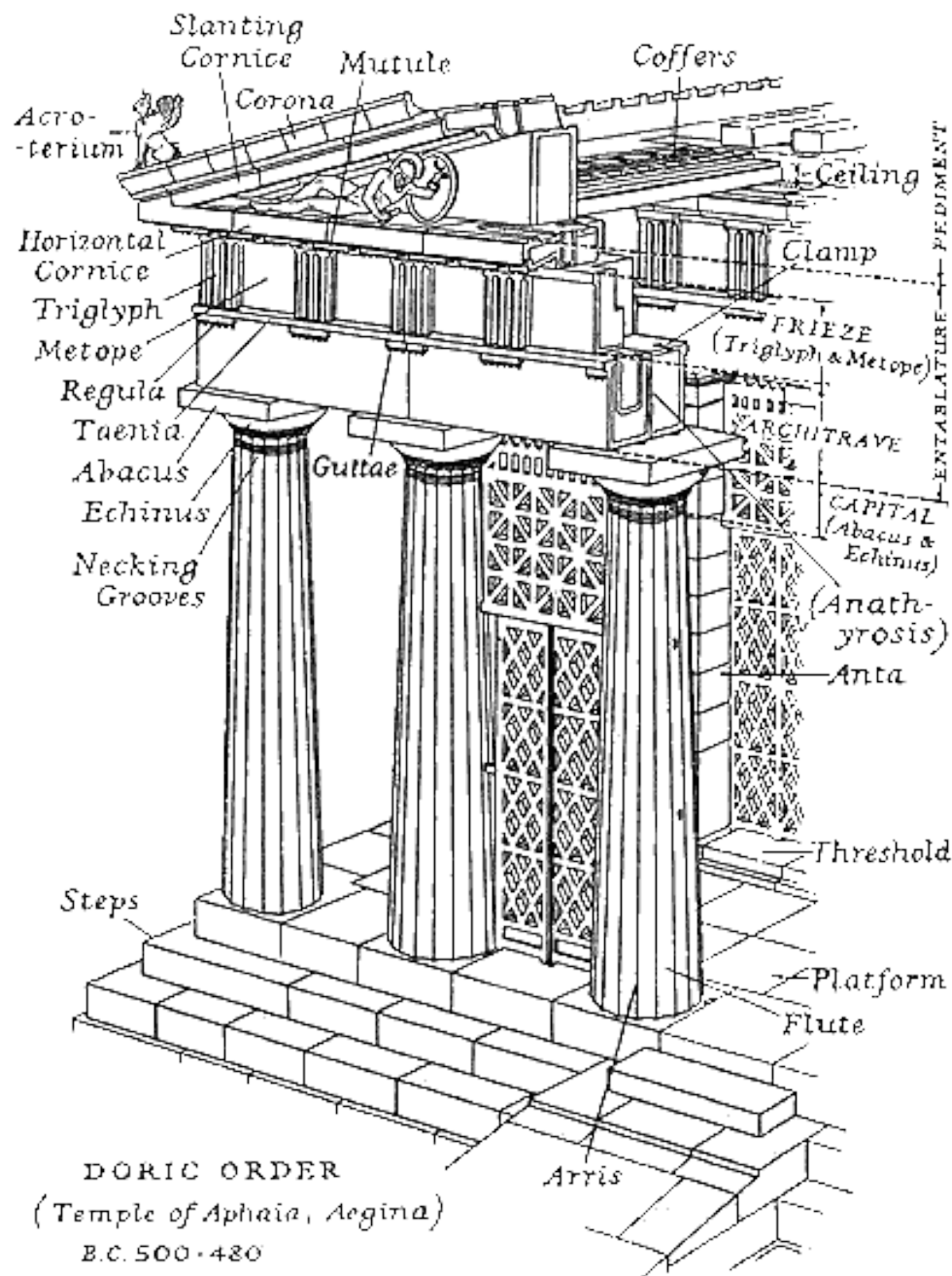
Doric



Ionic



Corinthian



PARTHENON 438 BCE (ATHENS)



The Parthenon sits up on the Acropolis in the center of Athens. It is THE iconic Western work of Architecture. It served as a temple to Athena and a treasury to the Athenian Empire.



Greek City-States: 400s BCE



Map 4.2 Classical Greece

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Greek Hellenistic Kingdoms, 300s-100s BCE



Map 4.3 Alexander's Empire and Successor States

Meet the Persians!



Map 4.1 The Persian Empire
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Cyrus' Empire

- 550 BC – Conquered several neighboring kingdoms
- Military genius
- Controlled an empire spanning 2000 miles
- Kindness toward conquered people
- Honored local customs and religions
- 538 BC - Allowed the Jews to return to their homeland, Jerusalem
- Considered by the Jews to be one of God's anointed ones

Darius

- Becomes king in 522 BCE
- Expanded the empire all the way east to the Indus River Valley
- Divided empire into provinces
 - Satrap – ruler of a province who was responsible to the emperor
 - “The Eyes and Ears of the King” would check up on the satraps
- Created an efficient administrative bureaucracy
- Regular tax payments to fund projects:



The Royal Road

- 1,677 miles long
- 111 relay stations
- Other smaller roads branched off the royal road
- Relay stations had rest areas and fresh horses.
- The entire royal road could be traveled in a week by a horsemen
- Caravans took about a month

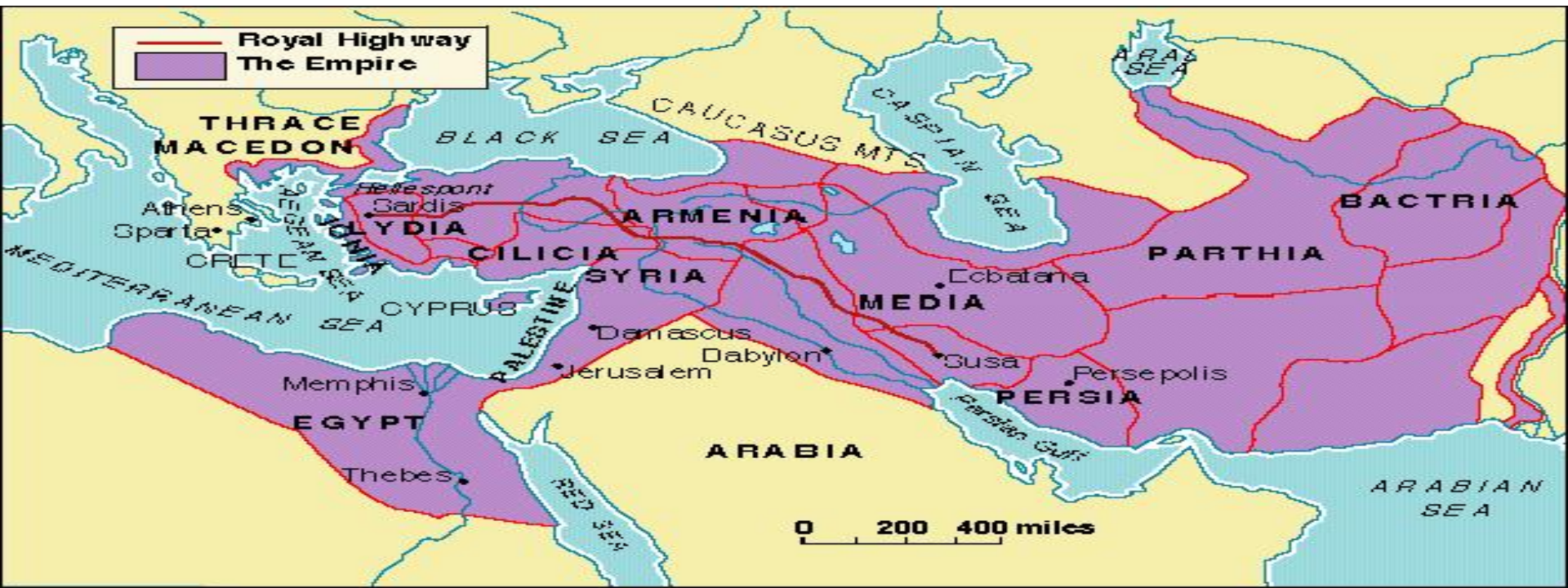
Advancements under Darius I

- 1. Persepolis, became an impressive city (Capital city of the Empire)
- 2. Created The Royal Road
 - 1500 miles
 - Encourage trade
 - Courier service and postal stations
- 3. Standardized currency
 - Made trade simple
 - Prosperous



THE PERSIANS

The Persians created an empire, the largest yet seen in the world, extending 3,000 miles. The empire flourished for 200 years. Persia is located in present-day Iran.



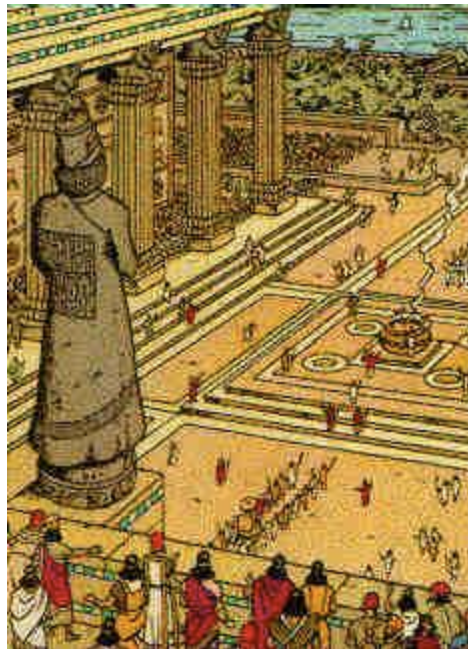
Persepolis – Capital



ANCIENT PERSEPOLIS



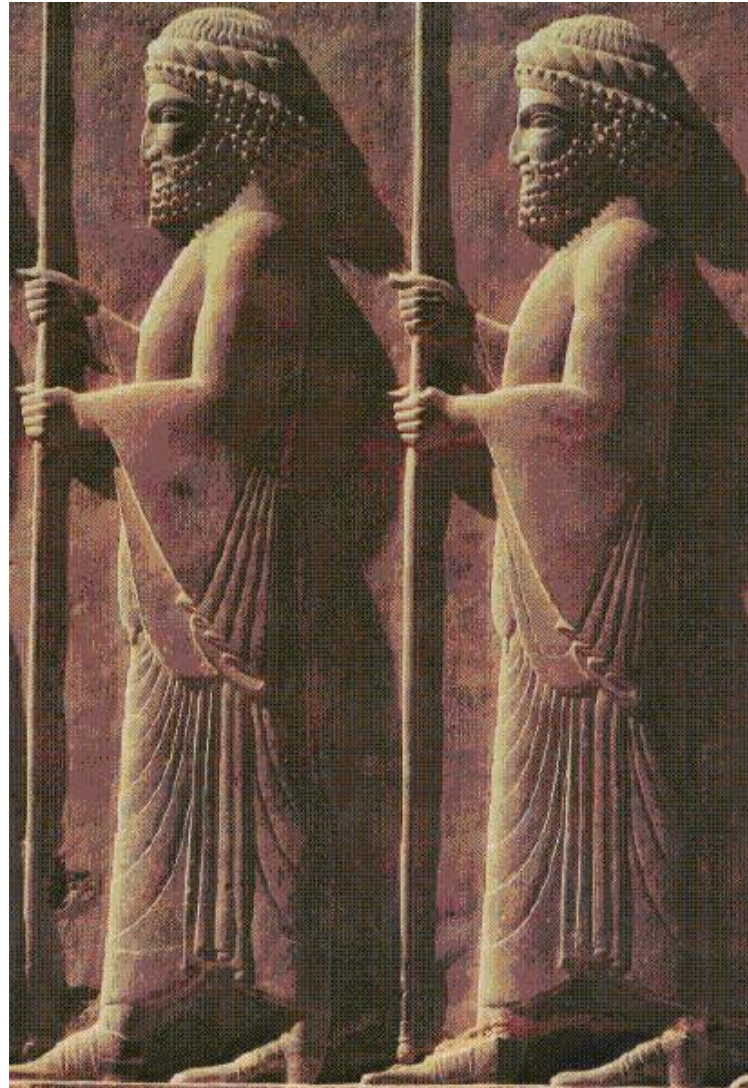
PERSEPOLIS



THE PEOPLE OF PERSEPOLIS

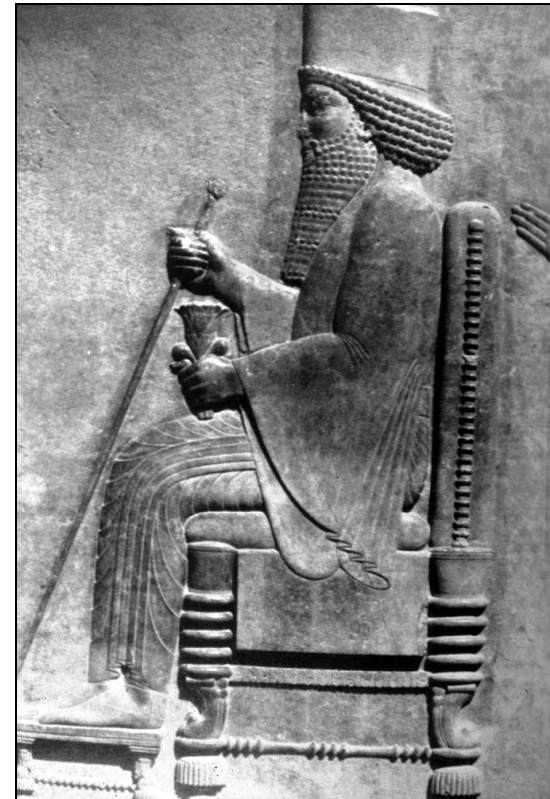


PERSIAN ARCHERS & SOLDIERS



Xerxes (519-465 BCE)

- Tolerant at first to subjects under the Persian Empire
- After Persian Wars (with Greece), became much less tolerant towards non-Persians living in the empire

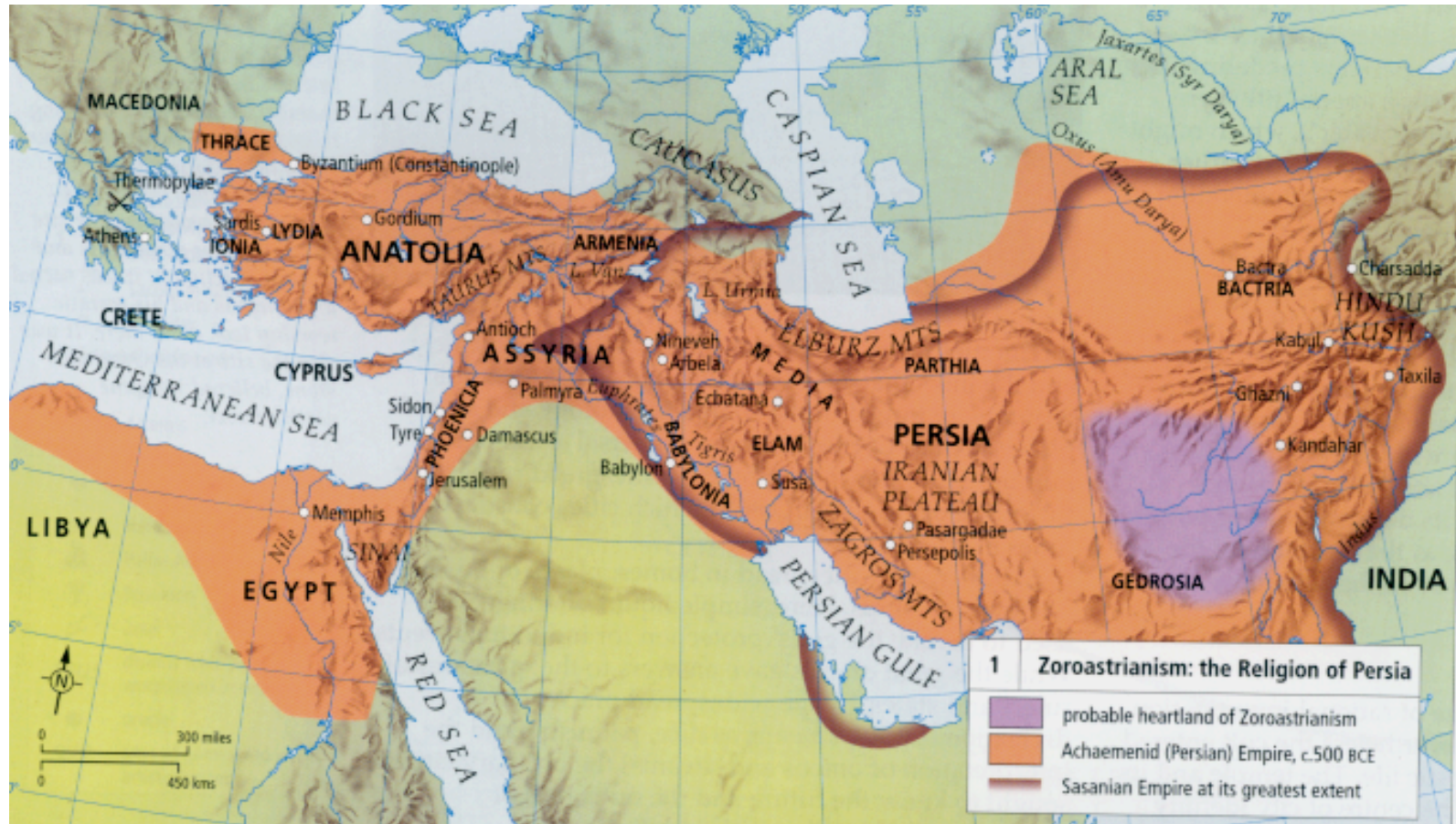


Religion of the Persian Empire

- Possibly began around 660 BCE
- Persian prophet began preaching a new faith
 - Zoroastrianism
 - Monotheistic
 - God was Ahura Mazda
 - Heaven and Hell
 - *Avestas* – text
- May have shaped the development of other monotheistic teachings (Judaism and Christianity)



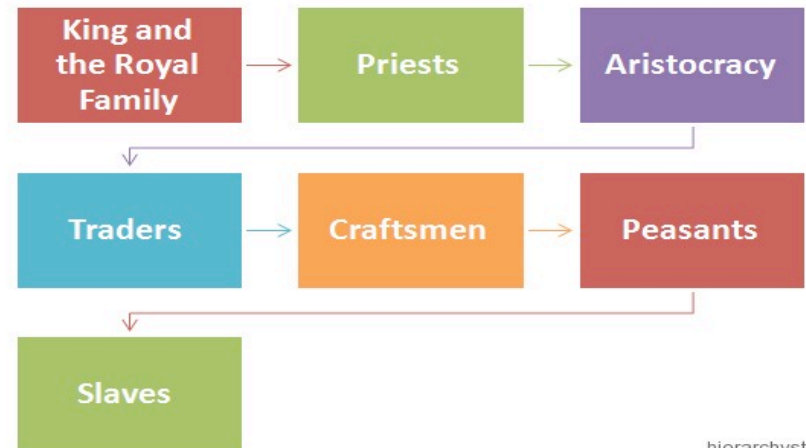
Extent of Zoroastrianism



Society

- Due to its large size:
 - Large education class
 - Well-paid government workers (accountants, administrators, tax collectors, and translators)
 - Slaves (more than any other empire at the time)
- Patriarchal **HOWEVER**:
 - women were allowed to own and manage property
 - Keep their wages
 - Engaged in textiles and trade

Ancient Persian Social Hierarchy



Society Cont.

To feed the growing empire and population

Qanats – underground irrigation

- Trade – by land and sea.
 - Ivory and gold from Turkey
 - Cedar and wool from Phoenicia
 - Wine and oil from Greece
 - Grain, textiles, papyrus from Egypt

DECLINE AND FALL

Achaemenid Empire (Persia under Cyrus, Darius, and Xerxes)

- Empire becomes too big to control
 - Poor leadership
- Lack of toleration of those they control – multicultural empire
- Persian wars (500-479 B.C.E.) – lost battles to the Greeks
- Invasion by Alexander the Great –
Marched into Persia and destroyed the
Achaemenid Empire – burned Persepolis.



Democracy

Athenian and United States Democracy

Athenian Democracy

- Citizens: male; 18 years old; born of citizen parents
- Laws voted on and proposed directly by assembly of all citizens
- Leader chosen by lot
- Executive branch composed of a council of 500 men
- Juries varied in size
- No attorneys; no appeals; one-day trials

Both

- Political power exercised by citizens
- Three branches of government
- Legislative branch passes laws
- Executive branch carries out laws
- Judicial branch conducts trials with paid jurors

U.S. Democracy

- Citizens: born in United States or completed citizenship process
- Representatives elected to propose and vote on laws
- Elected president
- Executive branch made up of elected and appointed officials
- Juries composed of 12 jurors
- Defendants and plaintiffs have attorneys; long appeals process